

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 /100 W
----- 021138

R 241150Z DEC 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 978

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 9486

H PASS CODEL

PASS STR FOR ACTION

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MTN ETRD

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATION--EGYPT

REF: STATE 276773

1. CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH EGYPTIAN DEL (HAMZA)
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, ON THEIR TROPICAL PRODUCTS (TP) REQUEST
LIST. USDEL DETAILED THREE CATEGORIES FOR US REACTION, COM-
MENTED ON INDIVIDUAL ITEMS DRAWING FROM REFTTEL, AND INDICA-
TED GSP ITEMS IN A SIMILAR MANNER OF PREVIOUS REPORTING
CABLES ON CONSULTATIONS.

2. USEFUL DISCUSSION ENSUED ON ISSUE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY
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CONTRIBUTIONS TO TP PACKAGE. HAMZA MADE THE POINT THAT

MANY OF HIS LDC COLLEAGUES WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE IDEA OF LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO A TP PACKAGE. MTN DEL STRESSED US POSITION ON TP PACKAGE IN JUXTAPOSITION TO US IMPLEMENTATION OF GSP NOTING SOME MEASURE OF BALANCE NECESSARY IN A TP PACKAGE AND THAT CONTRIBUTIONS BY LDC'S WOULD NOT BE CONSISTENT WITH INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT, TRADE, AND FINANCIAL NEEDS. IN ADDITION, DEL NOTED THAT CONSISTENCY WITH DEVELOPMENT NEEDS COULD BE THOUGHT OF BOTH IN TERMS OF CONCESSIONS OFFERED TO LDC'S AND CONTRIBUTIONS THEY WOULD MAKE TO TP NEGOTIATIONS. HAMZA NOTED BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF US POSITION BUT NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR EGYPT TO ACCEPT THIS REQUIREMENT.

3. HAMZA STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF TSUS 300.15, LONG-STAPLE COTTON, TO EGYPT. HE BASED HIS ARGUMENT ON THE NEED FOR A CONCESSION ON THIS ITEM ON SEVERAL FACTORS INCLUDING THE FACT THAT THIS PRODUCT WAS UNIQUE TO EGYPT, THERE WAS NO US DOMESTIC PRODUCTION. HAMZA ALSO NOTED THAT ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES NOTING THAT RELATIONS WITH THE EC WERE CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED. MTN DEL NOTED THESE VIEWS, INDICATED THAT THE US WAS A LARGE PRODUCER OF COTTON, ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE TRUE THAT WE DON'T PRODUCE LONG-STAPLE COTTON, IT WAS NONETHELESS COMPETITIVE WITH COTTON WHICH WAS DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED. WE ALSO INDICATED THAT WE HAD REPORTED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PRODUCT TO EGYPT AFTER THE FIRST CONSULTATION AND WOULD DO SO AGAIN. WALKER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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